

Cowra Shire Council

Private Bag 342

Cowra NSW 2794

Phone: 02 6340 2000

council@cowra.nsw.gov.au

www.cowracouncil.com.au

## Media Release

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## **Cowra Regional Library Extends Opening Hours**

Cowra Regional Library is extending its opening hours as part of a trial running from January 2, 2025, to April 5, 2025. This trial aims to gather data on the community's needs for library access at different times, allowing for adjustments to better serve local residents.

During the trial, the library will open an hour later on weekdays, from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm. Additionally, Saturday hours will be extended by four and a half hours, with the library open from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm.

As a vital community resource, Cowra Regional Library offers more than just books. It is a centre for lifelong learning, creativity, and connection, providing access to a wide range of books, digital media and educational programs. The library aims to empower individuals of all ages to learn, grow and engage with their community.

Mayor Paul Smith highlighted the importance of the trial, stating:

"The additional hours will help us understand the level of community demand for extra attendance opportunities access this valuable resource."

"Council is committed to supporting lifelong learning and making the library more accessible to everyone, especially for those whose schedules might not align with the usual opening times."

"This trial of longer opening hours complements a range of options to make the library more accessible for everyone, including book lockers that allow users to collect items around the clock, audiobooks and computer access. The library provides study and meeting spaces for students, as well as activities for younger children during the summer holidays."

"Council understands that people's lives are busy, and I encourage everyone to take advantage of this great opportunity to use the library's facilities at times most convenient to you."

Mayor Smith added, "We hope that the community will embrace this initiative to strengthen the library's role as a cornerstone of knowledge and cultural enrichment for all."

General Manager Cowra Shire Council Private Bag 342 COWRA NSW 2794

Alternatively, emails can be directed to council@cowra.nsw.gov.au.

For more information, please contact Cowra Council at <u>02 6340 2000</u> or visit <u>Cowra Council Website</u>

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Media Contact: Madeline Webster – 02 6340 2087